

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1 1. A method for switching between multiple SIM cards
2 within a telephone, comprising the steps of:
3 storing a plurality of internal ID codes, each of which
4 identifies a direct service provider of one of the SIM cards;
5 receiving an ID code identifying one of the service
6 providers;
7 comparing the received ID code to each of the internal ID
8 codes; and
9 switching to one of the SIM cards when the service
10 provider identified by the received ID code is recognized as
11 the direct provider of the SIM card switched to, identified
12 by the corresponding internal ID code.

1 2. The method as claimed in claim 1 wherein the internal
2 ID codes further identify a provider compatible with the
3 direct providers of the SIM cards.

1 3. The method as claimed in claim 2 further comprising
2 the steps of:
3 storing a priority table comprising priorities of
4 cooperation for the SIM cards with the compatible service
5 provider; and
6 switching to one of the SIM cards according to the
7 priorities when the service provider identified by the
8 received ID code is recognized as the compatible one of the
9 SIM card switched to, identified by the corresponding
10 internal ID code.

1 4. The method as claimed in claim 3 wherein the
2 priorities correspond to fee rates under the cooperation for
3 the SIM cards with the compatible service provider and the
4 fee rate of the cooperation for the SIM card switched to with
5 the compatible service provider is the lowest.

1 5. The method as claimed in claim 1 further comprising
2 the step of:
3 activating a Standby mode on the telephone.

1 6. The method as claimed in claim 1 wherein the
2 switching of the SIM cards is activated immediately after the
3 telephone is turned on.

1 7. The method as claimed in claim 1 wherein the
2 switching of the SIM cards is activated immediately after an
3 Send key of the telephone is pressed.

1 8. An apparatus for switching between multiple SIM cards
2 within a telephone, the apparatus comprising:

3 a storage device storing a plurality of internal ID
4 codes, each of which identifies a direct service provider of
5 one the SIM cards;

6 a receiver receiving an ID code identifying one of the
7 service providers;

8 a processor comparing the received ID code to each of
9 the internal ID codes; and

10 a switch switching to one of the SIM cards with the
11 service provider identified by the received ID code is

12 recognized as the direct provider of the SIM card switched
13 to, identified by the corresponding internal ID code.

1 9. The apparatus as claimed in claim 8 wherein the
2 internal ID codes further identify a compatible service
3 provider of the SIM cards.

1 10. The apparatus as claimed in claim 9 wherein:
2 the storage device stores a priority table comprising
3 priorities of cooperation for the SIM cards with the
4 compatible service provider; and

5 the switch switches to one of the SIM cards according to
6 the priorities when the service provider identified by the
7 received ID code is recognized as the compatible one of the
8 SIM cards switched to, identified by the corresponding
9 internal ID code.

1 11. The apparatus as claimed in claim 10 wherein the
2 priorities correspond to fee rates under the cooperation
3 between the SIM cards with the compatible service provider
4 and the fee rate of the cooperation for the SIM card switched
5 to with the compatible service provider is the lowest.

1 12. The apparatus as claimed in claim 8 wherein the
2 switching of the SIM cards is activated immediately after the
3 telephone is turned on.

1 13. The apparatus as claimed in claim 8 wherein the
2 switch is a multiplexer.

1 14. The apparatus as claimed in claim 8 wherein the
2 telephone comprising a Send key and the switching of the SIM
3 cards is activated immediately after the Send key is pressed.

1 15. The method as claimed in claim 15 wherein the
2 priorities correspond to fee rates of the cooperations of the
3 SIM cards with the compatible service provider and the fee
4 rate of the cooperation of the SIM card switched to with the
5 compatible service provider is the lowest.

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1 16. A method for switching between multiple SIM cards
2 within a telephone, comprising the steps of:
3 Storing a plurality of internal ID codes identifying at
4 least one service provider of the SIM cards;
5 Storing a priority table comprising priorities of
6 cooperation for the SIM cards with the service provider;
7 Receiving an ID code identifying the service provider;
8 and
9 Switching to one of the SIM cards according to the
10 priorities of the cooperation with the service provider.